

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent Application

Applicant(s) Chen et al
Docket No : YOR919990172US1
Serial No : 09/345,238
Filing Date: June 30, 1999
Group: 2654
Examiner: Qi Han

Title: Methods and Apparatus for Tracking Speakers in an Audio Stream

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner of Patents
P O Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C F R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants' attorney wishes to bring to the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office the following documents listed on the accompanying PTO Form 1449. Each of the identified references were first cited in a Japanese Office Action dated September 7, 2006. A Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal is being filed herewith to have the references considered. A copy of each listed document is enclosed.

Other Documents

1. Ozawa Kazunori, "Voice Signal Encoding and Decoding Method, Voice Signal Encoder and Voice Signal Decoder," Patent Abstracts of Japan, Publication Number 01-257999 (October 16, 1989).
2. Hanada Eisuke, "Vice Encoding System," Patent Abstracts of Japan, Publication Number 03-198099 (August 29, 1991)
3. Eberman et al , "Signal Segmentalization Method Basing Cluster Constitution," Patent Abstracts of Japan, Publication Number 10-105187 (April 24, 1998).
4. Patent Abstracts of Japan, Publication Number 59-111699 (June 27, 1984).

Statement of Relevance

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3)(1) and 1.56(c), the following statement of relevance is provided from Masafumi Takeda, a Japanese patent attorney who is substantively involved in the prosecution of the application and is an employee of the assignee with the most knowledgeable about the content of the document:

“PUPA 59-111699 shows the steps of preparing a phonological classification pattern memory for holding parameter temporal sequence obtained for each person by analyzing human voice uttered by the plurality of persons using frame period, calculating the correlation between parameter temporal sequence obtained by analyzing human voice, and parameter temporal sequence held in the phonological classification pattern memory to select the registered person having the biggest relationship, and outputting the person's name which was most frequently selected ”

In the event of non-payment or improper payment of a required fee, the Commissioner is authorized to charge or the credit **International Business Machines Corporation's Deposit Account No. 50-0510** as required to correct the error.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or as an admission that the information cited is considered to be material to patentability or as a representation that no other material information exists.

Respectfully submitted,

/Kevin M. Mason/

Dated: April 25, 2007

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